

[President.]

What the Dewan has said in reply to other matters raised in the Assembly does not bear directly on what is said in regard to this question. Therefore, your question is not strictly in order.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): ഈ കാര്യത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ഇതിൽ പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്ന ദിവാൻജിയുടെ അഭിപ്രായത്തെ ഇതേനിലയിൽ വിലവച്ചാൽ മതിയോ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): ദിവാൻജി അവർകളുടെ ഉദ്ദേശ്യം മറുപടിയിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിൽ കൂടുതലായി എനിക്ക് ഒന്നും പറയാനില്ല.

Period of Dryage of Salt.

19. **MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI** (*Tovala*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any fixed period for the salt stored to get dried before which it should not be sold, and if so, whether this was observed in the case of all the licensees during the last sale season?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer given to question No. 18 by Mr. T. Kumara Pillai.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether they have obtained expert opinion with reference to the period of dryage of salt?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): In view of the nature of the answer given, may I know whether the Government propose to obtain such expert opinion on the matter?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): If expert opinion has already been obtained, it may not be necessary to obtain it again. So, for this question also, I claim notice.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that dryage of salt has got to be scrupulously cared for before salt is sold out for consumption?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member does not seek any information. He is giving information.

Action taken by the Excise Commissioner and the Chief Engineer in connection with the Floods in Tamaraculam Salt Factory.

20. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): (a) (i) On what day of Tulam 1101 was there flood in the Tamaraculam Salt Factory? When did the Excise Commissioner get information of this fact?

(ii) When did he visit the Tamaraculam Salt Factory?

(iii) How long did he stay there?

(iv) What measures did he take for protecting the salt already collected and helping the salt manufacturers?

(b) When did the Chief Engineer get information of the floods in the Tamaracolum Salt Factory? Will the Government be pleased to state when he arrived at the place and what he did there?

(c) Did the Chief Engineer and the Excise Commissioner visit the Tamaracolum Salt Factory together? If not, did they meet there or at Nagercoil, about that time?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) (i) The flood occurred on the 24th Tulam 1101. The Excise Commissioner got information of the same on the 26th Tulam 1101.

(ii) On 27-3-1101, 13-4-1101, 29-4-1101 and 1-5-1101.

(iii) It is stated that on the first occasion he remained at the factories from 8 A. M. to 2 P. M., on the second from 8 A. M. to 11 A. M., on the third from 3-30 P. M. to 6-30 P. M. and on the fourth from 8 A. M. to 12 noon.

(iv) The flood had not subsided on the first occasion to admit of any useful work being started immediately. Nevertheless, instructions were issued to the Assistant Excise Commissioner at the spot to render all possible help to the licensees to take care of the salt that escaped damage from the floods.

(b) The Chief Engineer got information about the flood on the 26th Tulam 1101 and visited the place on the morning of the 27th Tulam 1101 and studied the conditions of the factory.

(c) The answers are in the negative.